

# Golden Gate Cymbidium Society

A Branch of the Cymbidium Society of America

Volume 60 Issue 2

[www.ggcymbidiums.com](http://www.ggcymbidiums.com)

DUES ARE DUE, NOW!

SPEAKER FOR FEBRUARY 25, 2009

ERIC HUNT

Eric has a continuing passion for orchids and their photography. He is the incoming Vice President of the San Francisco Orchid Society and in his final term as President of Orchid Mania. Orchid Mania is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization that accepts donated orchids and sells them to the public to raise money for grassroots AIDS organizations.

He appreciates all genera of orchids and is especially fond of the spotted cymbidiums. He has a collection of warm growing miniatures under lights and spends two Sundays a month working with the collection at Orchid Mania. His Photography has appeared in Orchids magazine, The Orchid Digest, The Orchid Review, Orkideer (a Swedish Orchid Society magazine), Gardner's World Magazine (UK), California Home and Design, The San Francisco Chronicle. Recent books using his work includes "300 Orchids", "Miracle Gro Complete Guide to Orchids", "Orchid Species of Peru", The Illustrated Dictionary of Orchid Genera", And Huntleyas and Related Orchids"

Please come and enjoy his beautiful photograph presentation.

Eric cannot make it to dinner, unfortunately, but if you can come anyway please contact Nancy at 510-261-7530. Grand Oaks Restaurant 5401 Grand Avenue, Oakland 5 P.M.

Show and Tell & Sales 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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Correction of last News: Arrangements have been made for us to be able to set up and judge our show on Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> after all. (Thank Goodness!) So be sure and have your groomed plants, flower arrangements and artistic entry in place by 6 P.M. Judging for CSA is at 6:30 p.m. Ribbon Judging at 7 p.m.

There will be a special enchilada dinner (prepared by Nancy) at 5 p.m. for the judges and workers.

Copies of Show Rules and classes will be available at meeting.

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Anyone wishing how to get a plant ready for exhibition is welcome to contact me, Rita Pascoe 510-276-2851 and you may come to my house for a demonstration on how to clean up and stake....I'm glad to help. I'm available most days.

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SHOW CARDS We need to pass out at businesses, etc.....Please take a handful to pass out at businesses, etc. This is really important for it is part of our advertising campaign. We need to pass out as many as we can. They will also be passed out at the San Francisco show

**WORD FROM SHOW CHAIRMAN NANCY STARR:**

Hi! Everyone: There were a few eager volunteers who signed up at the last meeting and you are much appreciated. I still need MORE folks to sign up. I will have list for Plant Hotel, Security, Set Up and Breakdown at the February meeting. PLEASE Don't "Let the other guy do it" be your motto. For any first-timers, it is a lot of fun and we even FEED you for your efforts. WE do always have a good show because we have such great volunteers. Ribbon judging need 4-5 more people on Friday at 7 p.m. You don't need a lot of experience and you really learn a lot. If you have any questions just ask me at the meeting or call 510-261-7530 or email me at [starrl@comcast.net](mailto:starrl@comcast.net). THANKS!

ALSO NOTE: The Founder's Trophy and Best Pink Plaque need to be turned in before the show. They are perpetual awards.

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**NOW! THE SAN FRANCISCO EXPOSITION**

ANYONE WISHING TO DISPLAY A PLANT/OR PLANTS SHOULD HAVE THEM DELIVERED TO THE PAVILION ANYTIME WEDNESDAY MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>, BETWEEN 11 A.M. AND NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. THE COMMITTEE WILL BE THERE TO ACCEPT YOUR PLANT AND HELP YOU FILL OUR YOUR ENTRY CARDS. WE HOPE TO HAVE A GOOD DISPLAY THIS YEAR. PLEASE PUT YOUR PLANTS IN BASKETS OR SOMETHING NATURAL.....THE THEME IS "GREEN WITH ENVY"

Ed McLean is the Chairman. Any questions call Ed at 510-769-0444 or Rita at 510-276-2851

LET'S HAVE OUR USUAL GREAT DISPLAY OF CYMBIDIUMS

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DUES RENEWAL TIME.....Send to membership chair Loretta Rodrigues,  
3773 Somerset Ave, Castro Valley, CA 94546

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FEBRUARY 20-22, 2009: ANNUAL SANTA CLARA VALLEY ORCHID, Westgate Mall. 1600 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, CA

MARCH 5-8, 2009; SAN FRANCISCO EXPO, "GREEN WITH ENVY" Fort Mason, S.F. Fri 10 am – 6 pm Sat 9 am – 6 pm Sun 10 am – 5 pm. Preview Thurs. 6:30 – 10 pm

MARCH 14 – 15, 2009; OUR 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SHOW AND SALE.

MARCH 20 – 22, 2009; SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW, Earl Warren Showground, Santa Barbara. There will also be the CSA CONGRESS ON SATURDAY. Entry pamphlets are available from Rita at the February meeting.

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### *Happy 20th Anniversary Golden Gate*

This is an article written by member Vern Viani, (with permission) on Golden Gate's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It tells about how our club got started to become the 10<sup>th</sup> member of the Cymbidium Society of America. Paul Chim, president of Golden Gate Cymbidium Society requested admission of his branch into the CSA June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1990 and we were accepted unanimously by the CSA Board of Directors on July 10, 1990.

Article follows:

Through the years, there had been periodic attempts to organize a Cymbidium Society in the northern California area. Perhaps one of the most important attempts relating to our current society was the one mounted by Dr. K. L. Lee, who is well-known for his collection of oriental cymbidium species.

More recently, Paul Chim and Janet Stoll asked the Marin Orchid Society members how many would be interested in joining a society specializing in Cymbidiums. Thirty seven members were interested. Although, perhaps, a greater percentage of the Marin hobbyists grow orchids without a greenhouse than maybe true for the 5 or 6 other orchid societies around the San Francisco Bay. This still lent hope of a large number of hobbyists who might join a Cymbidium Society. The Marin Orchid Society very generously provided seed money and gave us an additional donation early this year. At the urging of Janet Stoll and Paul Chim, organizational meetings of the Golden Gate Cymbidium Society were begun December 1988. The first meeting was hosted by Leland Williams of Oakland and was attended by Paul Chim, Karen Kinstle, Ted Surdam, Dean Haas and Wayne Ingalls. The first public meeting, replete with speaker, was held February, 1989. We have grown quite rapidly, as we fill the needs of people who are principally interested in growing Cymbidiums. Our paid membership is now 92 people and growing. At present members have commutes up to 150 miles and drive up to 3 ½ hours to attend our meetings. Talk about dedication! Presumably, some of our more distant members will eventually serve as foci for additional branches.

According to Paul Chim, in the late 1960's a study group was formed including Millicent Brown, Art Latham and Dr. K.H. Lee and a few others to try and organize a Cymbidium society. Then in the early 70's Jim Crossley wrote an article about growing Cymbidiums in the Bay Area. He tried at this time to setup a Cymbidium society and felt the forming of a society would give bay area people more chances of winning awards. AOS judges in the Bay Area rarely awarded Cymbidiums in the area. In the early 80's, Weegie Caughlan tried to set up a group to promote the culture and promote better growing conditions. She had a list of twenty five interested people, but a society was not formed. Then in 1988 when Paul Chim was

President of the Marin Orchid Society, he was able to get a list of thirty five interested people from Marin Society and it was these people who eventually organized the Golden Gate Cymbidium Society. A motion was passed at the Marin Society meeting to donate \$250.00 to the group for them to organize a new society. According to Paul Chim, he met with Leland Williams, the first president of the society, in Santa Barbara. Paul was in a Korean restaurant reading an article in the Orchid Advocate when Leland Williams noticed him reading it. Leland introduced himself and said he was the author of the article. Both being from the bay area, started to work together to organize this society. On February 24, 1989, a fictitious business name statement was filed for the Golden Gate Cymbidium, (file No. 134840) with officers as follows: President Leland Williams; Vice President Paul Chim; Treasurer Karen Kinstel; Secretary Estelle Emhart; and Directors: Mrs. R. W. Caughlan, Wayne R. Ingalls and Harry Wilmoth

The organizational meetings to set up the society were held in a Pizza parlor on Grand Avenue, but as noted above, the first few general meetings were held at the home of Leland Williams in Oakland. Jim Crossley volunteered to set up a display for the Golden Gate Cymbidium Society at the San Francisco Orchid society's Pacific Orchid Exposition and wrote an article for the members about preparing plants for the show and about judging. Helping Jim were Bob Johnson and Art Nicoll. The display was a model of the Golden Gate Bridge. Jim didn't even know that his display won until a few years later I mentioned that it had won \$50.00.

The first speaker for the society was Leland Williams at the February 28, 1989 meeting. Leland talked about his experiences in selecting Cymbidiums for the Bay Area. The first year the Board of Directors opted not to meet in the summer months, so there was no meeting in June, July and August. However, the members wanted to meet year round, so from 1990 and so on the Society has met all year and has had July as the Potluck dinner and December as the Christmas dinner. Since, we have had many well known speakers such as Andy Easton from Australia, Keith Andrews from England, Alan Moon curator of the Eric Young Foundation in England and many other experts in their various fields of expertise.

The first newsletter editor was Jeannie Look with Leland Williams writing the cultural page and continued to do so for several years. He also wrote cultural articles for beginners as well as the advanced members. We still publish these in our latest newsletters. When Jeannie Look resigned as editor, Leland took over for a while until Laura Sutherland volunteered to be the editor. After Laura's resignation Mary Ayres took over, then Audrey Young (Tarter) and back to Mary Ayres, our current editor.

During Leland William's term of office, the Society was new and began making the rules and by-laws for the organization. They started participating in the San Francisco Orchid show and made inroads to join The Cymbidium Society of America. During Paul Chim's term the Society did become a branch of the CSA and started the ball rolling to get members of the Golden Gate Cymbidium Society into training for becoming CSA judges. Paul Chim and the next president Barbara Gonce were very instrumental in starting the training for judges and six members of the society started the long training. In June 1998 Paul Chim became the first CSA Judge in the Golden Gate Cymbidium Society.

The first show held by Golden Gate was at the Lakeside Garden Center in Oakland and chaired by then vice president Raymond Greuel. The next two shows were held at the Bayfair Mall in San Leandro and then in 1994 returned to Lakeside Garden Center. All the shows and sales have been successful for the society.

In the ten years of the society's existence, we have come a long way and have learned a lot about the Culture of Cymbidiums and the care for showing them. We have shared a lot of experiences, trials and tribulations in cymbidium growing. Some of our founders have since passed away, like Leland Williams

and Janet Stoll and we miss them very much. On the other hand, we still have several of the first members like Paul Chim, Estell Emhart, Bob Johnson and Wayne Ingalls as members. The new members have pitched in and have helped to make the society what it is today. All I can add is that any club or society is only as good as the members that participate and work for it. We hope our members continue to do this and make a better Golden Gate Cymbidium Society.

Vern Viani, February 1999, Newsletter

Ed. Note: As you can see we have a great legacy to uphold.....and I think we have done it!

Yea! We now have kits!!! These test for both TMV CMV.....limit 5

TEST YOUR PLANTS FOR VIRUS:

Call for an appointment so Joe Giangrosso can bring the test kits to the meeting. TEST IS IN LARGE KITCHEN FROM 6:30 P.M. PLEASE be on time. Have a new leaf from the suspected plant sealed in a zip-lock baggie. The test only takes a minute and is for the TM-V only. His phone is 510-568-1962 Kits are \$4.25 each

CSA JUDGING: Groom & Clean your plant and submit to the Head Clerk by 7 p.m. in the large kitchen, NOTICE MUST BE GIVEN TO JEFF TRIMBLE AT LEAST ONE DAY AHEAD so he can assemble the Judges. Phone 650-368-8260 (or leave a message) email: [2752delaware@sbcglobal.net](mailto:2752delaware@sbcglobal.net)

FIRST BLOOM SEEDLING CONTEST: THE JIM CROSSLEY YEARLY AWARD, Plant MUST be A first-bloom for a NEW CROSS only !!! Forms available from Secretary. Call Paula Shiu 510-237-0471 so she can make arrangements. A perpetual plaque is awarded at our July Pot Luck each year. The new year will start August '08 though June '09

NOTE: **SEEDLING MUST BE A NEW CROSS!!! NOT AN OLD VARIETY.**

CSA MEMBERSHIPS (CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA) THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR CLUB IS JOINING NOW!!! It is strongly recommended for all our members to join our MOTHER CLUB. It provides insurance for all our activities and meetings. You will receive a beautiful Journal every two months and could be eligible for certain CSA awards. Visit CSA website [www.cymbidium.org](http://www.cymbidium.org) or club representative, Rita Pascoe. Dues can be paid at the meeting or mailed to : CSA MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, CLARA MOURA, 1742 GROVE WAY, CASTRO VALLEY, CA 94546 (She is usually at our meeting

REFRESHMENTS FOR MEETING: BRING ENOUGH FOR 10 PEOPLE. DON'T FORGET SOMETHING FOR THE ONES WHO CAN'T HAVE SWEETS. NOT FOR DECEMBER !!!!!

REQUEST FROM OUR LIBRARIAN: Joe Giangrosso has asked for donations to build our club library. If anyone has any interesting orchids books they would like to donate call him at 510-568-1962.

These will be books that can be borrowed by members to read and enjoy, and then returned to the library. Please, clean out your bookshelves..

CULTURE CLASSES BY PAUL CHIM FOR UP TO FOUR PEOPLE. CALL FOR AN

APPOINTMENT..... 510-635-3260.....462 BROADMORE AVE. SAN LEANDRO

**CLUB SALE ITEMS AVAILABLE**

Stock up for next season's dividing. We have a good supply of one gallon size for 65 cents each. Call Rita 510-276-2851 to order and pick up. We also have a supply of razor blades \$4.00 a box of 100; plant tags \$3.50 a pack. (at meeting)

**CLUB OFFICERS & COMMITTEES**

|            |              |              |                |                             |
|------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| PRESIDENT  | Ed McLean    | 510-769-0444 | DIRECTORS:     |                             |
| VICE-PRES. | Nancy Starr  | 510-261-7530 | Mel Jones      | 510-531-6368                |
| SECRETARY  | Rita Pascoe  | 510-276-2851 | Clara Moura    | 510-537-8923                |
| TREASURER  | Jewel Pierce | 510-278-1494 | James Donoso   | 510-562-9006                |
|            |              |              | Ceajay Palanca | 510-372-5782 (after 5 p.m.) |

**COMMITTEES:**

|                   |   |               |   |
|-------------------|---|---------------|---|
| LIBRARIAN         | Joe Giangrasso  | 510-568-1962  | email: <a href="mailto:jojograsso@peoplepc.com">jojograsso@peoplepc.com</a> |
| PLANT SALES       | Mel Jones   | 510-531-6368; | Agnes Radell 925-829-0485   |
| RAFFLE            | Jane Tsushima   | 510-635-5129  |   |
| MEMBERSHIPS       | Loretta Rodrigues   | 510-538-8632  | email: <a href="mailto:loretta193@aol.com">loretta193@aol.com</a>           |
| REFRESHMENTS      | Bob & Juanita Breckwoldt                                      | 415-479-2329  |   |
| AV TECH           | Bob Brechwoldt  | " "           |   |
| LIGHTING          | John & Bill Chu   | 5510-832-4391 |   |
| NAME TAGS         | Vern Viani & Rita Pascoe                                      |               |   |
| NEWS EDITOR       | Rita Pascoe   | 510-276-2851  |   |
| NEWS MAILING      | Jewel Pierce  | 510-278-1494  |   |
| JUDGE COORDINATOR | Paul Chim   | 510-635-3260  |   |
| CSA MEMBERSHIPS   | Clara Moura   | 510-537-8923  | (Can pay at meetings!)  |
| CSA CLERKS        | John Chu  |               |   |
| CSA Judges        | Steve Thai, Paul Chim, Trudy Hadler, Ken Jacobsen, Paula Shiu |               |   |
|                   | Jeff Trimble (Associate Judge) Ben Low (Associate Judge)      |               |   |
| CSA Club Rep.     | Rita Pascoe   |               |   |

NEXT BOARD MEETING IS MARCH 11, 2009 at the Fruitvale Library, FRUITVALE AVENUE, OAKLAND. (TWO BLOCKS EAST OF 580)  
Next General Meeting is MARCH 25, 2009 Sales and Show & Tell at 6:30 p.m. Plant judging is at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM: "ERIC HUNT, PHOTOGRAPHER OF ORCHIDS"

**Dues are due now !!!**  
**FORM INCLUDED**  
Don't get left off the new roster